



The Public Service Commission State of South Carolina

George N. Dorn, Jr.
Interim Executive Director
Phone: (803) 896-5133
Fax: (803) 896-5246

COMMISSIONERS
Randy Mitchell, Third District
Chairman
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Fifth District
Vice Chairman
John E. "Butch" Howard, First District
David A. Wright, Second District
Elizabeth B. "Lib" Fleming, Fourth District
Mignon L. Clyburn, Sixth District
C. Robert Moseley, At-Large

Utilities Department
D. Wayne Burdett, Manager
Phone: (803) 896-5125
Fax: (803) 896-5199

August 19, 2004

E-MAIL & US MAIL

Mr. John L. McDaniel
Chief Executive Officer
Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 588
Kingstree, South Carolina 29556

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

The Pleading which you filed on behalf of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. has been duly received and assigned **Docket No. 2004-231-C**.

In order to proceed with the processing of this Docket, it will be necessary for you to accomplish the following:

Publish, at your own expense, on or before **August 29, 2004**, the enclosed Notice, in newspapers of general circulation, in the affected areas, one time and provide the undersigned Proof of Publication on or before **September 13, 2004**.

Failure to comply with the above on or before the dates indicated may result in the **DISMISSAL** of your pleading.

In the meantime, should you require additional information, please advise.

Sincerely yours,

Judy Matthews
Administrative Specialist II

JM/jmm

Enclosure

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF FILING

DOCKET NO. 2004-231-C

Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Cooperative or Applicant) filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for approval to increase depreciation rate for a portion of its EWSD Central Office Switches. The Cooperative requests a depreciation rate of 25% for its net plant investment. As part of its Application, Farmers Telephone Cooperative states that the approval of the proposed depreciation rate will not cause an increase in subscriber rates now or in the future.

A copy of the application is on file in the offices of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210; and is available from Mr. John L. McDaniel, Chief Executive Officer, Farmer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., 1101 E. Main Street, PO Box 588, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556.

A public hearing, if scheduled, will be held in Columbia, South Carolina in the offices of the Commission at the above address, for the purpose of receiving testimony and other evidence from all interested parties regarding this Application. The time and date of this hearing will be furnished to all interested parties at a later date.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before **September 20, 2004** and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. *Please refer to Docket No. 2004-231-C.*

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing, if scheduled, should notify the Docketing Department in writing at the address below and John L. McDaniel at the above address, on or before **September 20, 2004** and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. *Please refer to Docket No. 2004-231-C.*

Any person who wishes to be notified of the hearing, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Docketing Department in writing at the address below on or before **September 20, 2004**. *Please refer to Docket No. 2004-231-C.*

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5113.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Attn: Docketing Department
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211